



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - October 6, 2003

- ***In the West***, fall fieldwork continues with few interruptions, although soil moisture shortages remain a concern for newly planted winter grains across the ***Northwest***.
- ***On the Plains***, unusually warm, mostly dry weather favors summer crop harvesting but is stressing recently emerged winter wheat. Today's high temperatures are forecast to approach or reach 90 degrees F as far north as ***Montana***. Rain will be needed soon, particularly on the ***northern and central High Plains***, to promote proper autumn establishment of the wheat crop.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, cool, frosty conditions linger in the ***Great Lakes region***, but mild, dry weather elsewhere in the ***Midwest*** is promoting summer crop harvesting and initial winter wheat planting.
- ***In the South***, scattered showers and thunderstorms are slowing fieldwork, including summer crop harvesting, from ***central Texas to the southern Atlantic region***.

Outlook: For much of the week, a stationary frontal boundary across the ***South*** will spark showers and thunderstorms in the ***Gulf Coast States***, while an upper-air disturbance and the remnants of ***eastern Pacific*** Hurricanes Nora and Olaf may trigger locally heavy rainfall in the ***Southwest***. Farther north, the passage of a cold front will bring below-normal temperatures and a chance of rain and snow showers to the ***Pacific Northwest and northern Rockies***. Elsewhere, high pressure will provide dry weather and above-normal temperatures to much of the U.S., although cool conditions will be slow to exit the ***Northeast***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for October 11-15 calls for above-normal precipitation across portions of the ***southern Rockies and Southwest***, while drier-than-normal conditions will be confined to the ***Great Basin and Mid-Atlantic States***. Above-normal temperatures are expected in the ***Great Basin and Northeast***, while cooler-than-normal conditions will return to ***central and southern portions of the Plains and Mississippi Valley***.

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Web Site: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>